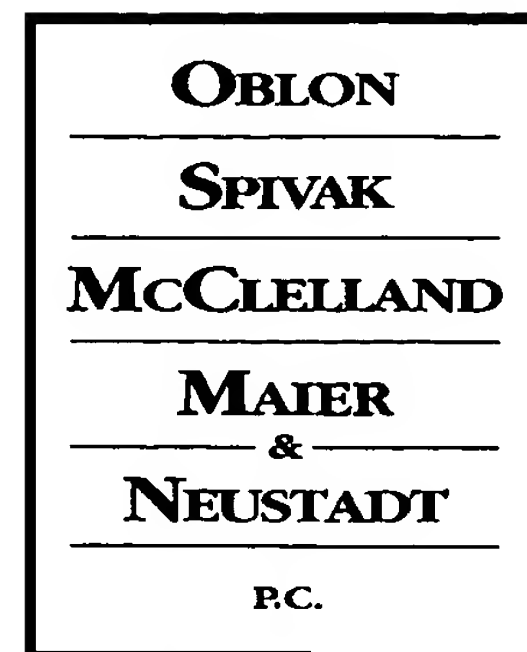




IPW



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Docket No.: 227430US26

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/615,915  
Applicants: Yohei YAMAZAWA, et al.  
Filing Date: July 10, 2003  
For: PLASMA PROCESSING APPARATUS  
Group Art Unit: 1763  
Examiner: R. KUMAR DHINGRA

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
Steven P. Weihrouch

Registration No. 32,829

Customer Number

**22850**

(703) 413-3000 (phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

DOCKET NO: 227430US26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

YOHEI YAMAZAWA, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 10/615,915

FILED: JULY 10, 2003

FOR: PLASMA PROCESSING  
APPARATUS

:

: EXAMINER: R. KUMAR DHINGRA

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1763

:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement dated July 22, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-31 for further examination on the merits. Additionally, Applicants elect, with traverse, species 4, corresponding to Figures 18 and 30. At least Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 10-20, and 26-30 read on the elected species.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The Claims of the present application would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Therefore, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction and

Application No. 10/615,915  
Reply to Office Action of July 22, 2005

Election of Species Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner.


Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven P. Weihrouch  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 32,829

I:\ATTY\MB\22's\227430US\227430US-REST RESP.DOC